

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : BONNET, Anthony

Group Art Unit: 1796

Serial No.: 10/584,876

Examiner: Paul, Jessica Marie

Filing Date: June 29, 2006

Confirmation #: 7921

For: **METHOD FOR GRAFTING A FLUORINATED POLYMER AND
MULTILAYER STRUCTURES COMPRISING SAID GRAFTED
FLUOROPOLYMER**

DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.132

Sir:

Declarant, ANTHONY BONNET, hereby declares as follows:

1. That I am an inventor of the above-identified application and am familiar with the prosecution thereof, including the Examiner's statement in the present Office Action mailed July 11, 2011 that the presently claimed process is obvious and unpatentable over the WO 90/15828 (Dahl), U.S. Patent No. 1,936,994 (Rice), and US 4,353,961 (Gotcher) references

2. That I believe my claimed discoveries are not taught or suggested by the cited art, for the following reasons.

In the prior art from Dahl, the stabilizer used in an Irganox 1010, which is not a metal salt. This type of stabilizer has a totally different type of mechanism for stabilization. For Irganox 1010 the mechanism is based on radical inhibition. In our case we trap the fluorine ion by a simple reaction with the zinc salt. This reaction occurs when the Zinc salt is grafted via radiation onto the PVDF. It is totally contradictory with the second document from Rice where the salt is never mentioned to be grafted. Then regarding the art from Gotcher the mechanism of grafting

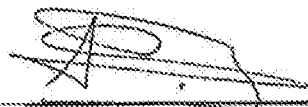
between ETFE and PVDF is also totally different, ETFE as sequences $-(CH_2-CH_2)-$ which are much more easy to graft using standard grafting chemistry while PVDF due to its specific structure is almost impossible to graft using peroxide for example. Only radiation can be used. Based on all these significant differences it is really not obvious to think that by combining these three documents it could have suggested to me the invention.

3. That all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of this application or any patent issued thereon.

Date:

11/14th/2011

Signature:



Anthony Bonnet